

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Claims 26-34 and 40-52 are pending. The amendments are fully supported by the original disclosure and, thus, no new matter is added by their entry. Clarifying that the amount of a precursor fluorinated organosilane refers to mol% in claims 26 and 49 is supported, inter alia, by Tables 2 and 4 (see pages 12 and 24 of the specification, respectively). An obvious typographical error is also corrected in claims 28-29. Entry of the amendments will reduce the issues on appeal.

35 U.S.C. 112 – Definiteness

Claims 26-34 and 40-52 were rejected under Section 112, second paragraph, as allegedly indefinite. Applicants traverse.

In claims 26 and 49, the amount of a precursor fluorinated organosilane is specified as mol% in response to the Examiner's requirement for clarification.

The phrase "fluorinated silica alkoxide" in claims 28-29 is replaced with --fluorinated silica alkoxide--.

Applicants request withdrawal of the Section 112, second paragraph, rejection because the pending claims are clear and definite.

Conclusion

Having fully responded to the pending Office Action, Applicants submit that the claims are in condition for allowance and earnestly solicit an early Notice to that effect. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned if additional information is required.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: /Gary R. Tanigawa/
Gary R. Tanigawa
Reg. No. 43,180

901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor
Arlington, VA 22203-1808
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100